

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CONSUELO AMEZCUA,
Plaintiff,
v.
NORDSTOM, INC.,
Defendant.

Case No. 22-cv-00453-NC

PRETRIAL PREPARATION ORDER

A pretrial conference is scheduled for May 10, 2023. A jury trial is scheduled to begin on May 22, 2023. This order prepares for the trial.

I. MOTIONS IN LIMINE

The parties must file their motions in limine by April 26, 2023, with responses due by May 3, 2023. No party may file a reply without leave of Court. The total number of pages each party submits for all motions and all responses must not exceed 15 pages. While it is up to each party to decide how much space to allocate for their motions and how much for their responses, the parties must each stay within the 15-page limit (e.g., a party can allocate 9 pages for their motions and 6 pages for their responses). The Court will hold a hearing on the motions in limine at the pretrial conference.

II. JOINT TRIAL READINESS BINDER

The parties are ordered to provide the Court with two copies of a Joint Trial Readiness Binder. The documents and binder are due by April 26, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at

1 the San Jose Courthouse. The parties must also file a copy of the Joint Trial Readiness
2 Binders in ECF. The Joint Trial Readiness Binders must each contain an index and copies
3 of filed documents with an ECF header reflecting the item's docket number and filing date,
4 including:

5 **A. Joint Statement of the Case**

6 The parties must submit a jointly agreed-upon summary of the case, not to exceed
7 one page. This statement of the case will be read to the jury at jury selection. If the parties
8 cannot agree on a statement, each party must submit its own one-page statement.

9 **B. Proposed Order Re: Trial Stipulations**

10 The Court expects that the parties will agree to a variety of stipulations regarding
11 the conduct of the trial. A proposed order outlining all such stipulations must be presented
12 to the Court.

13 **C. Witness Lists**

14 The parties must submit an updated list of all witnesses likely to be called at trial
15 (other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal), with a brief statement following each
16 name describing the substance of the testimony to be given and a time estimate of the
17 direct and cross examinations. This information must be presented in chart format and
18 organized by party. Witnesses who will be testifying as experts should be identified as
19 such and included in a separate expert witness list (see below).

20 **D. Expert Witness Lists**

21 The parties must submit an updated list of all expert witnesses with a summary that
22 clearly describes the expert's theories and conclusions, a curriculum vitae, and expert
23 reports. Witnesses not included on the list may be excluded from testifying.

24 **E. Updated Exhibit Lists Annotated with Stipulations and Objections**

25 The parties must submit an updated list of all documents and other items to be
26 offered as exhibits at trial (other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal), with a brief
27 description of each exhibit's contents and the identity of each sponsoring witness. As
28 applicable, the exhibit list must specify whether the parties stipulate to admit the exhibit or

1 the grounds for any objections to the exhibit. The exhibit list must also include an
2 additional column so that the Court can track the date on which each exhibit is admitted.
3 Prior to submitting the list, the parties must meet and confer and attempt to stipulate as to
4 the admissibility of each exhibit. This information must be presented in chart format and
5 organized numerically.

6 **F. Updated List of Discovery Excerpts**

7 The parties must list those excerpts from depositions, interrogatory answers, or
8 responses to requests for admission (other than those solely for impeachment or rebuttal)
9 likely to be used at trial. Prior to submitting the list, the parties must meet and confer and
10 attempt to resolve any disagreements regarding designations or counter-designations. The
11 parties must: (1) identify any remaining legal objections to the excerpts on the list itself,
12 and (2) attach copies of the disputed excerpts in a separate appendix so that the Court can
13 review the disputed materials. The parties must provide a single proposed order with each
14 disputed designation to enable the Court to rule on whether permission to use each excerpt
15 is granted, granted with modification, or denied.

16 **G. Proposed Voir Dire and Jury Questions**

17 The parties must include any proposed questions for the court-directed voir dire and
18 a joint proposed jury questionnaire. If any questions are contested, each party must state
19 the basis for proposing or opposing the question. In addition to including the proposed
20 jury instructions in the binder, the parties must submit the proposed jury instructions in
21 Word format to ncpo@cand.uscourts.gov by April 26, 2023.

22 **H. Proposed Verdict Form**

23 The parties must include a joint proposed verdict form with the questions arranged
24 in a logical sequence. If the parties cannot agree on a verdict form, each party must submit
25 its own proposed form.

26 **III. ELECTRONIC COPIES OF TRIAL DOCUMENTS**

27 The parties must send ncpo@cand.uscourts.gov an electronic copy, in Word format,
28 of the following documents listed above: (1) Proposed Order Re: Trial Stipulations, and (2)

1 Proposed Order Re: Discovery Excerpts.

2 **IV. STIPULATIONS RE: ADMISSIBILITY**

3 The parties must make a good faith effort to stipulate to exhibits' admissibility. If
4 stipulation is not possible, the parties must make every effort to stipulate to authenticity
5 and foundation absent a legitimate objection.

6 **V. EXHIBITS**

7 Exhibits must be provided to the Court by April 26, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at the San
8 Jose Courthouse. The parties must provide two sets of exhibits in binders with exhibits
9 marked, tabbed, and indexed. Exhibit binders may be delivered or mailed directly to
10 Chambers in San Jose. The parties must coordinate with the Courtroom Deputy for other
11 delivery.

12 Each exhibit in the binder must be pre-marked with an exhibit tag placed in the top
13 right corner of the first page of a document. The exhibit tags must be a color other than
14 white. A page of blank trial exhibit tags can be found on the Court's website. If an exhibit
15 is a physical object (rather than a document), the parties should take a picture of the object
16 and include the picture in the binder.

17 Upon the conclusion of the trial, each party must retain its exhibit through the
18 appellate process. It is each party's responsibility to make arrangements with the Clerk of
19 Court to file the record on appeal.

20 **VI. SCHEDULING OF JURY SELECTION**

21 The parties must notify the Court whether they wish to proceed with a jury or bench
22 trial by April 26, 2023. If the parties decide to proceed with a jury trial, the jury will be
23 selected on May 22, 2023. Opening statements will be on May 22, 2023 after jury
24 selection. The first witness will be called on May 23, 2023.

25 **VII. TRIAL LIMITS**

26 The Court anticipates giving each side a total of 7 hours to present its case. This
27 includes all aspects of trial (e.g., objections, examinations) except jury selection.

1 **VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

2 **A. Trial Transcripts**

3 If a party wishes to order a trial transcript, the order must be placed by April 26,
4 2023. Instructions on how to file a transcript order using Form CAND-435 are available
5 at: www.cand.uscourts.gov/transcripts.

6 **B. Electronic Equipment**

7 If a party wishes to use electronic equipment or other large items, the party must file
8 a request and proposed order with the Court by April 26, 2023. Equipment not provided
9 by the Court must be tested in the courtroom prior to trial. Arrangements may be made
10 with the Courtroom Deputy, Lili Harrell, at (408) 535-5343.

11 **C. Jury Orientation Video**

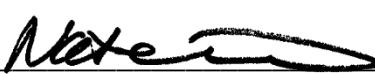
12 The Northern District of California requires potential jurors to watch an orientation
13 video before they are sent to the courtroom for voir dire. The Court encourages the parties
14 to watch the orientation video at: [https://www.cand.uscourts.gov/attorneys/unconscious-](https://www.cand.uscourts.gov/attorneys/unconscious-bias-video-for-potential-jurors/)
15 [bias-video-for-potential-jurors/](https://www.cand.uscourts.gov/attorneys/unconscious-bias-video-for-potential-jurors/).

16 **D. Questions from Jury**

17 If the parties select a jury trial, the Court will give an instruction to allow questions
18 from the jury in accordance with Ninth Circuit Model Instruction 1.15 (“Questions to
19 Witnesses by Jurors”).

20 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

21 Dated: April 27, 2022

22 
23 NATHANAEL M. COUSINS
24 United States Magistrate Judge